

# FOLK SONG AND DANCE SOCIETY OF VICTORIA

## ABOUT THE SOCIETY

- Its MAILING ADDRESS is P.O. Box 1096, Carlton, Victoria, 3053.
- It is INCORPORATED under the Associations Inc. Act (1981).
- It has the REGISTERED TRADING NAME of "FOLK VICTORIA", which is used mainly for publicity and sponsorship purposes.
- It holds MONTHLY MEETINGS (usually the first Monday of the month), where your views and suggestions can be voiced.
- It PROVIDES SPONSORSHIP, where appropriate, for various folk events and projects throughout the state.
- It REPRESENTS VICTORIA in matters involving all forms of folk arts, and as such is a member body of the Australian Folk Trust, Australia's national folk arts organisation.
- It charges MINIMAL ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEES.

## MEMBERS' BENEFITS

### 1. PROVIDED FREE OF CHARGE: -

- Monthly magazine-style NEWSLETTER - "FOLK VINE" - containing information about folk events, news and views from Victoria, Interstate and Overseas, record and book reviews, songs, tunes, stories, poems, dances, radio and TV listings - and anything else that comes in!
- Weekly Folk Music INSTRUMENT WORKSHOPS, where you can learn new tunes and playing techniques.

### 2. DISCOUNTED ("MEMBERS") ENTRY FEES TO: -

- The Society's weekly Folk Club (The MELBOURNE FOLK CLUB).
- All other clubs, concerts, dances, workshops and other functions run or sponsored by the Society.
- Events run by other Victorian folk groups, such as the:
  - Colonial Dancers
  - Echuca Folk Club
  - Folklore Council
  - Geelong Folk Club
  - "Peninsula" Folk Club
  - T.S.D.A.V.
  - "U.T. Creek" Folk Club
  - Victorian Folk Music Club
- Events run by a variety of interstate folk clubs.

### 3. DISCOUNTED ("MEMBERS") CHARGES PAYABLE FOR: -

- Records, cassettes and books sold at F.S.D.S.V. events.
- Advertising of appropriate items in "FOLK VINE".

----- "PLEASE RUSH ME MY F.S.D.S.V. MEMBERSHIP CARD" -----

NAME:.....

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Cheque as payment for: -

SINGLE - \$36 (CONCESSION - \$23)

FAMILY - \$55 (CONCESSION - \$36)

(N.B. "Concession" rates apply to PENSIONERS, FULL TIME STUDENTS, and people living in the COUNTRY - denoted by being outside the (03) phone area.

----- Return this form to P.O. Box 1096, Carlton, Vic., 3053 -----

# FOLK VINE

The Newsletter of the  
Folk Song & Dance Society of Victoria



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F.S.D.S.V. COMMITTEE 1990-1991

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 (General Committee) Hugh MacEwan (03) 489 2441 (H)

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 Kathy Burgi, P.O. Box 327, Clifton Hill, Vic 3068, (059) 643 568, or (03) 482 3281

\*\*\*\*\* DEADLINES \*\*\*\*\*

15th of each month for the following month's edition.

As long as items are ON TIME, TYPEWRITTEN IF POSSIBLE an attempt will be made to include them.  
 Please send directly to:

The Editor, FOLKVINE, PO Box 1096, Carlton Vic 3053

HANDBILLS FOR INSERTION: 300 copies required by 4 pm. on the last Friday of the month. No A4 size inserts please.

ADVERTISEMENTS: Please supply as bromides or CLEAR black white copies. Please supply originals in double final size, as pages are reduced from A4 to A5 in printing.

ADVERTISING RATES

NON-MEMBERS		MEMBERS
\$40	Full Page	
\$20	Half Page	25% DISCOUNT
\$10	Quarter Page	(\$5 MINIMUM)
\$5	Eighth Page	
\$25	Inserts (A5 size)	

Postal regulations restrict the number of inserts we can include each month: first four only accepted, so BE QUICK!!

FOLKVINE is printed by SNAP printers.

REPORT ON THE PRESIDENT WHEN YOU'RE NOT HAVING A PRESIDENT'S REPORT.

Good news on the Presidential Front! We are pleased to report that Hugh's operation was successful and his recovery, (to quote hospital sources) has been 'exceptional'. Hugh is now out of hospital and after a short convalescence we can expect he will soon be back at the Club. Smokers need to 'beware', as the medical profession has sternly warned Hugh of the dangers of passive smoking.

Reminders

The Committee would welcome any suggestions members might have as to a worthy recipient of the Graham Squance Award for this year. It would be appreciated if you could phone any recommendations to Annie McGlade (484 1204) a.s.a.p.

Folk Song and Dance Society of Victoria

\*\*\* ANNUAL GENERAL \*\*\*

\*\*\* MEETING \*\*\*

when

28th, JULY 1991  
 2:00 till 4:00 pm

where

The East Brunswick Club Hotel  
 280 Lygon St, East Brunswick.

\*\*\*\*\*

Notices of Motion for the A.G.M. should be in the hands of the Secretary 14 days prior to the above date. If you wish your motion to be put before the membership prior to the meeting, please forward same to the F.S.D.S.V. Post Box by 15th. June, in order to meet the editorial deadline for the July Newsletter.



## FOLK IN MELBOURNE by Jeanette Gillespie

### THINGS PAST . . .

#### *Melbourne Folk Club*

Has a whole month gone since I wrote the last report? It seems no time since the National! However the good music keeps rolling on at the East Brunswick, though the onset of cold Friday nights seems to have kept people home by the fire instead of coming out to warm their souls with good company and music! We really miss those faces which haven't been seen for a while. Come back and say Hullo!

The month of April ended on a high note with 3 of Australia's top performers on the one bill on the 26th. Rick E. Vengeance warmed the audience immediately with his humour and showmanship. His songs and his skill on the guitar always make for easy listening. See him again at the Club on July 5th - hopefully a longer bracket.

Enda Kenny followed with a well-crafted set which commanded the audience's attention - a skilful combination of his own songs and those of others, both serious and humorous. Jan Wositzky showed for the next hour or so that he has not lost the art of weaving a spell over his listeners. A whole ocean of Australia's history flowed through his gentle songs and stories. A young Canadian hitch-hiker who we had brought with us was obviously fascinated - I think he took away from that night a little more understanding of the Australian character (of course, we taught him 'Oz' customs all the following week!)

What a pity so many of you missed out on the great voices of John Beavis and Di McNichol on May 3rd! Separately, their styles are quite different; together, their harmonies are superb. Try and catch either of them next time they are in town for all-too-rare performances.

I heard good reports of Norm's night on the 10th. Geelong band The Jacksons haven't played at the club before and were well received, as was Keitho Laurie who was making a 'welcome back' performance after having been away for some time. Another good Australian music night.

As I write, I'm looking forward to the rest of May, and of course to Judy Small's appearance on the 31st.

#### **Reviews**

\* Vin Garbutt \* (April 21st - East Brunswick Club Hotel)  
Into folk music at the ripe old age of 15 . . . professional musician in 1969 . . . first album, 'The Valley of the Tees' in 1972 . . . already armed with a

rich repertoire of songs and established as a singer and songwriter of fine socially-conscious and environmentally aware songs.

The passage of the 70's, 80's and now the 90's have seen Vin's reputation grow worldwide, and his songs broaden and develop. Seeing him in concert was an immensely moving experience. I, like most people I spoke to, went away laughing, crying and stunned! We laughed at his brilliantly zany introductions, and were moved to joy, hope or tears at his finely-crafted songs and powerful voice; were amazed at his tin-whistle and guitar playing. Whatever you do, don't miss him next time around!

\* Rory McLeod \* (April 25th)

Unfortunately, I missed Rory, so if anyone has a report, I'd love to receive it!

\* The Boite Singers Night \* (The Boite, Mark Street Hall, North Fitzroy, April 27th)

Helen Wright reports that the first Singers' Night was a great success. The mulled wine and open fire were very conducive to good spirits; the hall was full; there were many there whom Helen had never seen before in the normal rounds of the folk scene; Fay White sang well and was a most suitable hostess; the blackboard of those wishing to sing was full, and the songs sung were varied and interesting.

Sounds like the 4th Saturday of the month at the Mark Street hall (8.15pm) is something for all singers (or would-be singers) to mark in their diaries!

\* Wagga Dance Weekend \* (19th-21st April)

Dave Rackham passes on congratulations to Val Wilson and the crew at Wagga for a well-organised and varied weekend of dance. Here's hoping it becomes an annual event and grows in a similar fashion to the Yackandandah Dance Weekend in October.

\* \* \* \*

### Things to Come . . .

#### *Melbourne Folk Club*

*The 7th of June* brings us Andrew Wishart, and the band The Colonials. The last time The Colonials played at the Club it was a friendly and informal affair - we'll be looking forward to some great music again from these guys.

Hicks from the Sticks will stage a takeover on *the 14th*. Yes, a visit from our country cousins! Derek and Barb Guille are from Horsham. Derek works with the ABC there, and both were involved in organising the



Horsham folk festivals. Adrian and Glenda Verrinder and Captain Logan, who are Adrian and Friends, are all from the Wedderburn area. Let's give them a good welcome to Melbourne!

*On the 21st*, Peter Anderson will make a welcome return to the stage at the Club. Also appearing on Enda Kenny's recommendation will be David Hosking. And Joe Paolacci has gathered together quite a crew of musos to form a new group, Accord. This should be a real treat!

*The 28th* will be a big night, with Dennis and Lyn Tracey and Bruce Watson. Dennis and Lyn have recently released their new album Red Fox, and we are sure to hear some new songs from Bruce.

*July 5th* sees Mike and Michelle Jackson working together again for the first time in 5 years, along with a longer bracket from Rick E. Vengeance and a spot from one of the 'old crew', Lyell Sayer.

### "THE BASTARD WHO SQUASHED THE GRAPES IN ME BAG"

by Denis Kevans

Reviewed by Garry Regan

Denis's latest book contains some 300 poems and is presented well in a glossy soft cover. What I particularly like about the presentation is the photos and the drawings which are interspersed with the poems. Some of the drawings are quite pointed. Pages of small poems or quips provide light relief and serious thought between the larger poems.

I've met Denis on a number of occasions and read his last poetry book as well ("Ah, White Man have you any Sacred Sites") and every time I've been disturbed by Denis's imagery and this time is no exception.

Denis makes you sit back and think about what we are doing to this world and its people. He has a rare insight and the ability to put into words his feelings and, no doubt, those of a lot of other people too.

This book, I feel, marks Denis as one of Australia's greatest poets. It is obviously a culmination of a lot of work. It contains a few personal favourites of mine such as "The Woodchip Man" and the title poem of the book.

With some of the poems in the book he comes very close to the bone with his wit and his sarcasm. One I particularly like is on page 33 "Dangerous Animals in Australia". I've met the individuals that Denis alludes to, and the descriptions are apt. They just don't give a stuff about this world or the environment and people. They are self-centred individuals hell-bent on money, greed and destruaion.

I just hope for our sake more people who are environmentally-aware rise up and use their voices in opposition just like Denis does.

To sum up, the book obviously contains Denis's private thoughts put in to some order. The topics he covers are war, the nuclear industry, woodchipping, developers and his beloved Blue Mountains, plus many others. I suggest that you get hold of the book and read and understand it.

"To Denis! and the music and poems that will never end!"

[The book is available from Denis for \$10.00. If ordering by mail, please add \$2.00 p.& p., and write: Denis Kevans, Poet Lorikeet, 63 Valley Road, Wentworth Falls 2782]

Cornstalk Gazette no 208 April 1991

### SUNDAY JULY 7th

East Brunswick Club Hotel

### MIKE & MICHELLE JACKSON

*Reunion Concert for the kids and anyone young at heart  
First time performing together in 5 years!*

Bookings and Enquiries: Meg McDonald 387 5256 or alternatively 387 3230

### FRIDAY JULY 19th 8.30 pm

East Brunswick Club Hotel

### PETER HICKS

Singer/Songwriter from Sydney

*Peter has performed with Roaring Jack and the Emigrants, as well as in his own right at major festivals. His song 'One more day than them' won the 1991 National Labour Day song award.*

### Festivals !

Please add these to your festivals calendar . . .

June 15-16

6th Australian Hammered Dulcimer Festival

Majura Community Centre, Dickson, ACT

Contact: Gillian Alcock, 25 Woodgate St, Farrer, ACT

Phone (06) 267 1737

October 4-7

The Australian Bush Music Festival

Glen Innes, NSW

Further details: (067) 32 1359 or (0647) 32 1797

25-27 October

Yackandandah Dance Weekend

Yackandandah, Vic

Contact: Barry Simpson (03) 484 4130

or Bill Bamford (03) 347 0372

### BATTLER'S BALLAD

Alan Scott and Keith McKenry have produced "a fresh and thoroughly engaging collection of Australian bush songs and recitations. Performed simply and directly, with humour and sensitivity, [it is] a delightful introduction to the traditions of the Australian bush". Available in CD and cassette from Fanged Wombat Productions, 5 Bonney Street, Ainslie ACT 2602 or call 06/247 9656.



**THE AUSTRALIAN HERITAGE AND FOLKLIFE CENTRE  
OF VICTORIA - FEASIBILITY STUDY**

As most members will be aware the Folk Song and Dance Society of Victoria has, for the past two years or so, been in the forefront of a campaign to establish an "Australian Heritage and Folklife Centre" in Victoria.

Grants totalling \$25,000.00 were received in 1990 to undertake a feasibility study. Stage one of this study, an assessment of the cultural needs of such a "centre", was completed in August of that year. The consultant's report, some eighty-nine pages in all, embodies the needs and concerns of the more than 100 interviewees. Its sheer size and depth of content is witness to the tremendous support and enthusiasm within the community for the centre concept. The report draws together the views of a very broad cross section of the folk arts community and presents a strong, coherent argument for the establishment of an activities/resource based Heritage and Folklife Centre in Victoria.

Based on the perceived requirements of the respondents, the report establishes a conceptual framework within which the centre could operate. It sets out the role and structure of the centre and identifies several areas of activity where the centre could provide key services to the broader community. The logistical aspect of establishing a centre and its relationship with existing institutions is also discussed in detail. The report concludes with a Mission Statement and an outline of Corporate Objectives.

The report was accepted with minor amendments by the management committee. A fourteen page summary document called "The Case For An Australian Heritage And Folklife Centre In Victoria", has been prepared and distributed to a broad cross section of the community, seeking expressions of support. Copies of the summary are available through the Society.

**The Key recommendations of the report are:-**

1. That a regional folk centre be established, to be called the "Australian Heritage and Folklife Centre of Victoria", with the objectives as per the proposed mission statement (Statement of Purpose) contained in Appendix 1 of the main report.

2. The State Government promote moves by specific elements of the folk community to form a Victorian Folk Life Trust to represent and unify the disparate elements of Victorian folklife.
3. The second part of the "Folk Life Study" (a financial and business planning exercise), be undertaken under the auspices of the Victorian Folk Life Trust to determine the feasibility of the conceptual approach and structure described in this report.
4. The State Government consider the funding by government of a folklife centre to be staffed and owned by the trust, and of the key operational programmes identified for the folklife centre.
5. The government take steps to rationalise and increase its funding schemes towards the folk community and examine the administrative structures and processes by which it administers its involvement in and the nurturing of folkloric activities, with a view to using the folklife centre as a key instrument of arts policy.

Due to the greater than expected response to the study, stage one took approximately one month longer to complete than originally scheduled. The additional costs associated with this over-run left insufficient funds to undertake any meaningful commercial analysis. Consequently it was decided, in discussion with the Ministry, to defer stage two until 1991 and incorporate its funding requirements into the 1991 grant application.

Grant applications for 1991 funding were lodged with:-

- a) the Victorian Ministry for the Arts (\$30,000.00), for the ongoing funding of the study.  
(Received \$10,000.00)
- b) the Community Cultural Development Unit of the Australia Council (\$27,000.00) to finance one full time position dedicated to the development and implementation of the recommendations of the stage one report.  
(Received \$ NIL)
- c) the Australian Folk Trust (\$3000.00) to assist with the publication cost of the studies findings  
(Received \$500.00)



This greatly reduced budget necessitated a complete review of the whole approach to the project. A new management committee was convened and a revised action plan and work programme was drafted and submitted to the Ministry for approval

The revised programme was developed on the basis of deferring the stage two feasibility aspect and concentrating on the implementation of the second recommendation ie. the establishment of some form of umbrella organisation to unify the folk movement, which for the want of a better name has tentatively been called the 'Victorian Folk Trust'. The rationale behind this shift in emphasis is four fold;

1. There are insufficient funds to undertake any meaningful commercial assessment at this point in time.
2. For a centre to have any chance of survival it must be, and be seen to be, representative of the broad spectrum of folk arts. Therefore, it is an essential prerequisite that an umbrella organisation be in existence.
3. The centre project will be far more attractive to potential funding bodies and corporate sponsors if it can demonstrate the support of the whole Victorian folk arts community
4. Notwithstanding the establishment of a centre, the formation of a 'Victorian Folk Trust' will be of great benefit to the folk arts community in general, by providing a vehicle to promote common interests.

Currently, moves are well underway to establish a Victorian Folk Trust. As part of the process some two hundred copies of the 'Summary Document' have been distributed to a broad cross section of the community, seeking support from parties interested in forming the initial base for the 'Trust'. The next step in the process is an open meeting convened for the purpose of formally establishing the 'Trust'. This meeting is scheduled for 7:00 pm Thursday 13th. June, at the Maltese Community Council Centre, 477 Royal Parade, Parkville. Draft articles of association have been drawn up and copies will be made available at the meeting for perusal and comment.

It is then envisaged that the "Australian Heritage and Folklife Centre" project would become the responsibility of the 'Victorian Folk Trust'.

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## IMPLICATIONS for the Folk Song and Dance Society of Victoria

Given the impending establishment of the Victorian Folk Trust there are a number of matters which should be brought to the attention of members, as these will have a direct bearing on the future direction of the Society and will need to be addressed at the Annual General Meeting.

As one of the main driving forces behind the push for an umbrella organisation, it is incumbent upon the Society to participate fully in the formation of the 'Trust'.

With the establishment of the Victorian Folk Trust, the Folk Song and Dance Society can no longer be seen as the representative body for Victoria, which immediately raises the question of its role within the Australian Folk Trust. This in turn raises the question of the Society's role in future National Festivals.

On the question of National Festivals, the AFT has not, as yet received any expressions of interest to host the 1993 festival. The FSDSV is giving some thought to the matter but only on the basis that a number of groups get together to underwrite the cost. The obvious progression of this thought is that any expression of interest should come from the Victorian Folk Trust; in fact this event, by bringing together organisations for a common purpose, could be the catalyst to consolidate the formation of the 'Trust'.

Another matter that will need consideration is the future of 'Folkvine'. Presumably, as the representative body, the 'Trust' will undertake the dissemination of information in Victoria. If this turns out to be the case, will it be necessary for the Society to maintain 'Folkvine' in its present form; or indeed, given Folkvine's high profile, should it remain the voice of Victorian folk and become the organ of the 'Trust'?

These are just some of the dilemmas the Society will be need to resolve in the coming months and no doubt other issues will arise as the Heritage and Folklife Centre project develops.

A full report of the 13th. June meeting will be included in next months Folkvine.

Derek Brown.

**ADVERTISE IN FOLK VINE FOR AS LITTLE AS \$5**



### Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

It did not occur to me that potential contributors had perhaps got hold of the wrong end of the stick when it came to submitting articles for the newsletter until someone told me that they sent in handwritten articles because they thought their typing was not good enough for publication.

I thought that perhaps I should write a short article explaining the way we now put the newsletter together and clarifying the preferred (easiest for us) method of submitting material.

We use a Macintosh Classic computer running Word to lay the pages out and there are five ways of putting articles on the finished page:

1. Typing directly into the computer.
2. Typing into another computer (I.B.M., Mac. or Atari ST) and then sending the disk to the editor.
3. Typing onto paper which is scanned and inserted into Word electronically (Amazing! you'll be saying).
4. Handwriting articles that one of us will have to type in to the computer.
5. Including print ready material such as press releases and advertisements.

In the first four methods we do the final layout and spelling checks ourselves so there is no need to worry about those things and you can see that it makes the editor's task easier not having to be a secretary as well. As long as the words are there we can do something with them.

A word about layout: The Mac has a huge range of fonts and borders available and we can really let rip.

My daughter, who is a fourth year graphic student at Swinburne, says I am obsessed with borders and makes gestures using a finger down her throat at the FONTS I use but see if I care! ( She has promised to help us re-furbish the 'WHAT'S ON' pages.)

So, please, poor typewritten is better than copperplate handwriting and if you can find someone with a typewriter then so much the better. It leaves more time for us all to try to improve the whole magazine.

Tony Falla

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8 PM WEDNESDAY  
VENUE; IRISH WELFARE BUREAU  
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for further info. contact  
WENDY REED 899 5434.

### In the Pot . . .

#### *Congratulations:*

- \* Belated congratulations to Colin Towns and Jenny Lowe on their recent marriage.
- \* Congratulations to Andrew Morris and June Bride from Geelong, who are to be married on June 15th.
- \* Enda Kenny has notched up another songwriting award - this time at the Kapunda festival in South Australia on the weekend before Easter.
- \* Jamie Johnston and crew should be justly proud of the record sales figures of *'Lis Johnston - A Tribute.*
- \* To those who have joined the FSDSV in recent months - you are helping to preserve some fantastic traditions as well as developing our own folk-life in Australia

#### NEWS

- \* Letters have been arriving from Ellen Burke - she and Martin have had an absolutely wonderful time in America and now England. Missing all their friends and would love some letters. Can be contacted C/o 44 St Mary's Crescent, Tickhill, Doncaster, South Yorkshire, DN11 9JW, England.

### The Leinster Story

by Jeanette Gillespie, with assistance from Pam Connell

On June 18th a remarkably long-running 'session' will formally celebrate its demise. The 'wake' should be a ripper! If we can lure back even half of the many people who have been to Tuesday night English music and song sessions during the past eight years or so, Pat, our beloved licensee, will have to pick up the pieces afterwards!

In fact, the session has not always been held at the Leinster Arms Hotel, in Collingwood. Before late in 1984 the Dan O'Connell Hotel had us oompah-pah-ing in a corner of the front bar, and before that, in Keith Fox's lounge room . . . but that part of the story is before my time, and it was up to Pam Connell to fill me in on the session's beginnings.

Memories have grown a little dim, and dates are hazy, but Pam thinks it was in the early 80's when she first started to get really interested in doing something with her button accordion, or 'box' playing. She was from Somerset herself originally, and was naturally interested in English music. She obtained a couple of Volumes of English country dance tunes (which have subsequently become the 'Bibles' of English style musos all over Australia!) and began to work through them. Pam was friendly with



singing group 'Goshawk' and played some backing music for them. Duncan Brown, a Goshawk member, suggested that she might be interested in getting together with a few other musos who were playing a similar style of music.

And so the first informal sessions began, with Pam playing box, Keith Fox on whistle, Dave Ahrens on guitar and singing the occasional traditional song, and Tom, another friend, coming along to listen and enjoy. There was Duncan sometimes too, and Dot Roberts, who is now living in Sydney and comes down to enjoy the Fiddlers Convention every year. After 18 months or so in Keith's lounge room each week, the crew decided that their get together might be even more enjoyable with the amber fluid on tap! So the Dan O'Connell pub was asked if they didn't mind having them playing in a corner of the bar. Pam thinks this was late in 1983 or early 1984.

About this time, Pam began to play Morris dance music for Britannia Morris team, and when the session moved to the Dan, some of the Morris folk became involved as well. Lyn Stone and Chris Bigby brought in their instruments, Maree added her bodhran and Gill Rackham her fiddle and hammered dulcimer. Other regular sessioners were Peter Anderson and Dave Alleway. I started going along some time in 1985 when Pam went overseas for a while and Dave Alleway undertook to keep the session going in her absence.

Dave encouraged the growth of the session and proved to be a great session 'leader'. He had a wide knowledge of tunes, not only from the English tradition, but from Scottish, Irish and Australian sessions as well. He was sensitive to the needs of those in the group, catering to both the experienced players and those who were just learning. I could not begin to recount the number of people who are playing instruments now because of the Tuesday night sessions.

One memorable night at the Dan was the Tuesday after the Melbourne National Folk Festival in 1986. The place was packed and the joint was jumping, with musos from all over Australia joining in the fun, including the brass section - Phil Wilson (QLD), Gerry McEwan (SA), Dave Alleway and Robin Wade (Vic) to name a few!

In June of 1986 a few of us flew up to the Newcastle Folk Festival. There we met some of the Sydney and Canberra folkies who were also into the English music scene; conversation and ideas flew thick and fast, and the concept of the Olde Empire Band was born. Phil Baker was instrumental in organising the first Olde Empire dance in Sydney, with Maree, Gillian and Pam being the 'ambassadors' from the Tuesday session!

When Melbourne's turn came to host the Olde Empire Band Weekend (late in 1987), Tuesday nights became practice sessions for a while. By this time, however, the group had transferred to the Leinster Arms Hotel. This happened after a memorable disagreement with the new O'Connell Licensee over some Macedonian bagpipes caused the entire 25 of us to arise and walk out! The Leinster Arms happened to be Robin Wade's watering hole, and Pat Murray, the licensee, was delighted with the music. She has since then been a staunch supporter; supper magically appeared on the table each week, and many's the time the blinds were drawn after closing time and we were asked to stay on and play as 'friends and guests'.

The Leinster session has, however, now run its course. Gradually the numbers dwindled for a variety of reasons and the music became less frequent. With the Alleways in Marysville, Lyn immobilised with a broken leg, Pam in Alexandra, the Neilds going overseas, Father John not able to call in as often - just name a few - the group has gracefully retired.

**BUT NOT QUITE**: There is still the WAKE to happen! Absolutely anyone who has been to a Tuesday night session in its 8 year history is invited! Who knows - a Phoenix may rise from the ashes and a new and different session begin. After all, you never know what may come of a lounge room gathering with friends!

### WAKE for the LEINSTER

Farewell the Tuesday Night English Sessions in style

TUESDAY JUNE 18th 8.00 pm

at the Leinster Arms Hotel, Gold Street, Collingwood

Please bring a plate of supper and instruments



*Used Musical  
Instruments*  
149 Elgin Street Carlton 3053  
Telephone (03) 348 1194

VICTORIAN  
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PROGRAMS  
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1992

GRANT  
APPLICATIONS

The closing date  
for the 1992 funding  
period is  
30th. June 1991.



## VICTORIAN FOLK VENUES

[ "\*" items are managed or sponsored by the F.S.D.S.V. - see back page ]  
["Phone" = at the venue; "Contact" = contact people are NOT at venue]

### MUSIC VENUES - METROPOLITAN

SMTWtFs

F \* MELBOURNE FOLK CLUB Fridays, 8.30 - 11, followed by session  
East Brunswick Club Hotel 280 Lygon St. E. Brunswick.  
Contact Meg MacDonald, (03) 387 5256

F THE BOITE: WORLD MUSIC CAFE Acoustic world music Every Fri. 8.00  
Mark St Hall, Mark St, N. Fitzroy. Contact (03) 417 3550

SM WtFs CAFE YARTZ Acoustic-Eccentric Cafe Music Wed to Sun, cheap snacks  
224 High Street, Northcote Contact 481 8084

tFs CELTIC CLUB Every 2nd Thurs. approx. 10 - 12, each Fri & Sat, 7 - 12  
Cnr La Trobe/Queen St. Melbourne - phone (03) 67 6472

Fs CLIFTON HILL HOTEL Fridays & Saturdays, late 10.30 - 2.30  
Queens Pde, Clifton Hill - phone (03) 489 8705

S WtFs DAN O'CONNELL HOTEL Wed.-Sun. Irish bands. 9.30-12.30 (8.30-11.30 Sun.)  
Cnr Princes/Canning Sts, Carlton - phone (03) 347 1502

s FOLKLORE COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA 3rd Sat. each. month from 8 p.m.  
Eastern suburbs (venue alters) Monthly social / meeting.  
Contact Maxine Ronnberg (03) 20 4136

S WtFs GREEN LANTERN COFFEE LOUNGE Wed. - Sun. 8.30-12.30 (2 a.m. Fri-Sat.)  
(Acoustic/blues/folk/jazz, etc. Open talent night Sunday)  
13 Burwood Highway. phone (03) 808 8023

SMTWtFs 'MOLLY BLOOMS' Every night Various Irish bands and singers. 9 - 12 p.m.  
Bay St, Port Melbourne, - phone (03) 646 2681

S WtFs NORMANDY HOTEL Thurs - Sun. Irish bands 9.30 - 12.30 (9 - 12 Sun.)  
Cnr Queens Pde / Gold St, Clifton Hill - phone (03) 481 3332

S 'ONE-C-ONE' (Acoustic/Blues/Folk) Sundays 8 - 11  
Brunswick Mechanics Inst., Sydney Rd, (Diag. opp. B'wick Town Hall)  
Contact Marion Cincotta (03) 347 7515  
Melanie Gould (03) 347 5485

F 'PICKIN'AT THE PIGGERY' 3rd Fri each. month (except Jan, Feb & Oct) 8-11p.m.  
(string band,/old time/bluegrass,/cajun fiddle music) \$4 (members)/\$5  
at the Footscray Community Arts Centre, 45 Moreland St.  
Performers welcome. Contact (03) 689 5677

M SINGABOUT FOLK CLUB Guest artist nights, 4th Monday each month, 8pm  
Alphington Anglers Hall, Cnr Clarke / Rathmines St, Fairfield.  
Contact Betty Davis, (03) 478 9656 (In recess until further notice)

SMTWtFs TWILIGHT COFFEE HOUSE every night 9 - 12 p.m.  
234 High St, Kew. - phone (03) 861 6587

### OTHER FOLK MUSIC ORGANISATIONS

'ACROSS THE BORDERS' - organisation established under the auspices of the City of Brunswick.  
Frequent concerts, workshops, etc., held at various venues. Predominantly multicultural folk music.  
Contact Peter Leman, Community Arts Officer (03) 380 3301  
(b.h.) or 'Across the Borders', (03) 387 3376

'THE BOITE' - Multicultural folk organisation holding frequent concerts & workshops  
at various venues, esp. The Boite World Music Cafe, Mark St, North Fitzroy (see above).  
Contact (03) 417 3550 (answer-phone), or P.O. Box 1150, North Fitzroy, 3068  
VICTORIAN FOLK MUSIC CLUB - Dances and dance practices, music and song nights,  
publishes song and dance books and tapes of dance music instructions.  
Contact (03)497 1628, or write: G.P.O. Box 2025 S, Melbourne, 3001

## LEARN AND / OR PARTICIPATE MUSIC & / OR SONG

INTERNATIONAL MUSIC, SONG & DANCE Occasional workshops organised by The Boite,  
Contact (03) 417 3550.

IRISH FOLK MUSIC CLASSES Wed. 8pm (Children's classes: Sat. morning Thurs. 7.30)  
Aust. Irish Welfare Bureau, Gertrude St, Fitzroy. Contact Paddy O'Neill (03) 417 3682

RINGWOOD FOLK CLUB Tuesdays. (Except last Tues. ea. month, Bush Dance night) 7.45  
Dance music, singing, etc. E. Ringwood Community Hall, Knaith Rd (off Dublin Rd)  
Contact Graeme Higman (03) 890 6890

SINGABOUT FOLK CLUB In recess until further notice.

VICTORIAN HARP SOCIETY 2nd Saturday each 2nd month 2.00 p.m.  
(esp. for harp lovers, beginners & players) Contact: To be announced

YARRAVILLE Weekly Sessions  
Yarraville Neighbourhood House, 114 Blackwood St. Contact Marsha (03) 687 5706

### DANCE

CIRCLES AND SQUARES DANCE GROUP Thursdays 8.00 - 11.00 pm  
European, Israeli, Sacred circle dancing.

St Margarets Hall, Hotham St (cnr Denman Av) E St Kilda. Contact Marie 534 0345

COLONIAL DANCERS every Wednesday (live music every 1st Wed.) 8.00 - 10.00 pm.  
Australian, Colonial, British Isles, Old Time, etc.

Carlton Community Centre, 150 Princes St., Carlton.  
Contact Garry Clarke (03)687 5504 (a.h.) or Heather Larsen (03)235 3238 (b.h.)

COLONIAL BUSH DANCE (run by VFMC) Live Music. Last Tuesday of month 7.45 pm  
East Ringwood Cmty Hall (Melways 50 B8) Contact Graeme Higman (03)890 6890

INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCING WORKSHOPS Tuesdays 8.00 pm  
Beginners to advanced. Carlton Community Centre, 150 Princes St, Carlton. \$3.  
Contact Graham Witt (03) 380 9736.

IRISH DANCING CLASSES

1. Aust. Ir. Welfare Bureau, Gertrude St Fitzroy, Thu 8-10. Contact Paddy 417 3682
2. Celtic Club, Cnr LaTrobe/Queen Sts, Melbourne, Thurs. 8-10 Phone (03) 67 6472
3. (Geelong area) Holy Spirit Parish Hall, Bostock Av, Manifold Hts, Tues & Thurs 4.30-6pm. Contact Margaret Dempsey (03) 233 7835 or Siobhan Hoare (052) 784 249

ISRAELI & INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCING (Enrolment required)

Classes at various venues. "Sheffi's School of Multicultural Dance", 1 Stanley St,  
Collingwood, 3066. Contact Sheffi Shapira (03) 817 1632.

MORRIS DANCING: BALLARAT MORRIS DANCERS Thursdays 7 - 9 pm  
Uniting Church Hall, Wendouree Pde/Forest St. Contact Pamela Hince (053) 391 554

MORRIS DANCING: BRITANNIA MORRIS MEN Thursdays 8 - 11 pm  
Jika Jika Cmty Centre, Plant St, Northcote. Contact Peter Cartledge (03) 481 2337

MORRIS DANCING: OLD THUMPER N.W. MORRIS Every Tues. (except 1st) 8-9.30  
St Mark's Community Centre, George St, Fitzroy.  
Contact Jenny Hale 861 7455 or Colin Towns 867 1113

MORRIS DANCING: PLENTY MORRIS DANCERS Tuesdays 7.30 pm  
Melbourne Uni. Sports Centre Contact Kerrie Casey (03) 570 6811

MORRIS DANCING: SHE-OAKS Ladies Morris Dancers Wednesdays 7.30 pm  
Melbourne Uni Sports Centre Activities Room  
Contact Kathy Gausden (03) 489 2554 (ah)/(03) 608 1191

SQUARE DANCING CLASSES Wed.'s: Beginners/ Every 2nd Fri. Advanced  
St Matthews Church Hall, Nepean Hwy, Cheltenham. Contact Steve (03) 383 2414

WELSH DANCING CLASSES 2nd & 4th Thursdays 7.30 - 9.00 pm  
Cambrian (Welsh) Church Hall, LaTrobe St, Melbourne.  
Contact Liz Hardidge (03) 386 6686 or Michael Williams (03) 489 5415

PLAYFORD AND ENGLISH COUNTRY DANCING 1st Tues every month 7.45 p.m.  
St Mark's community centre, Cnr. George / Moor Sts. Fitzroy  
Contact Colin Towns 867 1113





The Songs and Stories of Australia, a series of radio programs exploring Australia's folk tradition is broadcast on ABC-FM Stereo, as part of The Australian Experience, each Friday at 11.30am. The Songs and Stories of Australia is rebroadcast on ABC-FM Stereo Saturday at 7.05pm. Produced and presented by David Mulhallen (Adelaide) this program explores the rich traditions of our country's heritage. In a delightful mix of poetry, music and anecdotes, we discover the legends and the people who described them - Banjo Patterson, Henry Lawson and others.

**NOTORIOUS STRUMPETS AND DANGEROUS GIRLS**  
Friday, June 7 at 11.30am & Saturday, June 8 at 7.05pm  
Transportation of women to Van Dieman's Land began in 1803 and continued to 1853. Notorious Strumpets and Dangerous Girls is the description given to these convict women by a ship's surgeon and is the title of a book by Phillip Tardif, published by Angus and Robertson. In this program Phillip talks about his research into the lives and the experiences of these convict women.

**BUSH VERSE INTO SONG**  
Friday, June 14 at 11.30am & Saturday, June 15 at 7.05pm  
Story telling, poetry, and song are essential factors in passing on an oral tradition. But with much of Australia's more recent heritage coming from a literary tradition, there continues to be a constant and unresolved conflict as to what really is Australia's folk heritage. The program looks at the tradition of poetry and its relationship to folklore, especially when turned into song by musicians like John Broomhall, Cathie O'Sullivan, Richard Keam and Chris Kempster.

**THE DRY BLOWN DREAMERS**  
Friday, June 21 at 11.30am & Saturday, June 22 at 7.05pm  
In this program folklorist Keith Hollinshead tells of Sandgroppers and Sandblight, The Palmer Field and other Pegs and Diggers and Diggerdom. An account in song and verse of the goldrushes of Australia.

**THE LARRIKINS IN CONCERT**  
Friday, June 28 at 11.30am & Saturday, June 29 at 7.05pm  
The inimitable Larrikins line-up of Warren Fahey, Dave de Hugard, Chris Kempster and Bob McInnes take to the stage for a concert of songs that made Australia and passed into the folk tradition. Recorded at the Songs and Stories/Larrikin Music Festival held at the Rose Shamrock and Thistle Hotel in Sydney in January 1991.

- David Mulhallen, producer and presenter (08) 343 4000.



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Fax (02) 339 2826

### **3RRR FOLK SHOW** Rick E. Vengeance Tuesdays 2.00 - 4.00 pm

In August this year, Rick E. Vengeance will have notched up 12 years with 3RRR. Every week without fail he has brought folk music to the listeners of Melbourne's 'premier alternative non-commercial FM radio station'. He has no hesitation in saying that he is the longest running DJ on 3RRR!

Rick says that the show has been on just about every day of the week, but has been in its current time slot for a few years now. Rick, as a professional entertainer, tends to lead a night life - daytime before about 2.00 pm is an unknown quantity to him - except on Tuesdays! He marks his week by Tuesdays, the only day he must be up before midday, in order to get to the station in time!

Rick plays anything remotely related to Folk music - from 'finger-in-the-ear stuff' to the Pogues. He receives many phone calls - inquiries, requests, announcements of events, where can I buy instruments? where can I get lessons? and so on. He has also interviewed numerous folk musicians who have passed through Melbourne from interstate and overseas. So if you have a favourite record you want played, an event to be pushed or an artist to be promoted, how about giving Rick a ring at the station on 419 2066 during the folk show.

Jeanette Gillespie

(Next month: 3CR's Traditionally Late)



reviewed by Jenny Simpson

To all those folkies out there who missed the recent season of The Bouncing Czecks at the Last Laugh, SHAME ON YOU!

Comprising of Gerry Hale, Paul Gadsby, Richard Piper and Adam Gare, The Bouncing Czecks provided an adrenalin-pumping, fun-filled evening of outstanding entertainment, which I describe as a comic folk cabaret.

It is difficult to determine any single characteristic of The Bouncing Czeck's performance. The harmonies were tight and dynamic, the musicianship was excellent, the entire presentation was extremely energetic and, above all, very funny. The show itself was about all



conceivable aspects of money: making it, loving it, being loved because of it, gambling, the economy, embezzlement and much more.

One of the strangest aspects of the show was the fact that although each performer had a very distinct identity it was virtually impossible to distinguish any one of them as being stronger or better than the others. The teamwork and interaction between them was superb.

I believe that these fellows have been known to play under the title 'The Richest Men on Earth' and that they can be found performing at the Acoustic Club (The Esplanade Hotel, St Kilda) on Wednesday nights. So if you're looking for some fantastic entertainment - track them down!

Jenny Simpson



## MUSIC for the CAPELLA

Music of Seventeenth Century Europe  
for baroque violin, viola da gamba, recorder and organ

*Corelli, Biber, Purcell, Castello, Selma, Cima*

Trinity College Chapel, Royal Parade, Parkville, Friday June 28, 8.00pm

## NOBLES DIVERTISSEMENTS

Music of Eighteenth Century Europe  
for baroque violin, viola da gamba, recorder and harpsichord

*Biber, Corelli, Purcell, Castello, Selma, Cima*

"Lubassa" Manor Grove, Caulfield, Saturday July 20, 8pm, Sunday July 21, 2.30pm

CYNTHIA O'BRIEN, RUTH WILKINSON, JOHN O'DONNELL

Tickets: Tue 28 - 18; <10 conc. Bookings through BASS 41500

LA 20 & 21 - 16, no conc. Bookings through NATIONAL TRUST 684 4711

## RECORD REVIEWS

Roy Bailey 'Freedom Peacefully'

reviewed by Jeanette Gillespie

Fuse Records CF 386 1985

Available from Sandstock music and at the Melbourne Folk Club

Until his recent tour of Australia, Roy Bailey was a hidden treasure to all but a few gold-seeking lovers of good music in this country. Thankfully, the treasure has now been shared among many!

Roy Bailey has been revealed to us as one of the finest folk singers of our generation, with a voice of beauty, gentleness, power and passion. The songs he has gathered from song writers the world over are gems too; combine great material with a great voice and personality and the result is a magical performance!

Recordings rarely have the ability to capture completely this kind of magic, and I'd have to say that 'Freedom Peacefully' does not have quite the power of the Roy Bailey I saw in Melbourne and in Adelaide. However, it is still well worth owning, even if you haven't had the chance to see him live.

The songs cover a broad historical and international perspective and touch on many of the most immediate and important of the issues that concern working people and their lives and rights. There is Brian Pearson's song, inspired by the peasant's revolt: 'Children of the Earth'; the traditional song 'Hard Times of England'; his rediscovery of the 1922 Music Hall song 'Are you Working?'; and the deeply moving ballad by American songwriter Charlie King of the martyrs Sacco and Vanzetti: 'Two Good Arms'. 'The Malvinas Song' by Dave Rogers laments the death of a husband in the South Atlantic and recalls the tragic human suffering that 'jingoism' of unnecessary war brings.

He touches on the destruction of nature for profit in 'Rain Forest Falls' (Geoff Pearson). 'The Curtains of Old Joe's House' (Si Kahn) and the immensely compelling 'Burning Times' (Charlie Murphy) draw our attention to the rights of people to live their own lives in their own way. 'What you do with what you've got' is a song of inspiration for us all to make the most of what we have, for the good of all. Chilean Violetta Parra's beautiful love song 'Gracias a La Vida', or "Thanks to Life" is sung on the record in Spanish, accompanied by John Kirkpatrick on button accordion.

Other musicians backing Roy's voice and guitar are Howard Evans and Richard Cheetham on a variety of brass things, and Val Bailey, Katherine Bailey, Sue Harris and Peta Webb on vocals.



Cover notes from Roy along with the words of all songs are printed on an insert (including the English words of 'Gracias a La Vida') - great for those of us who love the songs enough to learn some of them. My tape recorder pause button takes enough of a beating already!

And a final few words from the man himself: 'However depressing, worrying, threatening and dehumanising the political state of the world is, I am constantly reminded of the tolerance, love and humanity of the many thousands of men and women I have had the pleasure to meet and sing with.' No, it's not just what you're given, it's what you do with what you've got!

\*\*\*\*\*

**KIERAN HALPIN *Crystal ball gazing***

Reviewed by Enda Kenny

As a kid it was Jim Reeves & Buddy Holly, then Jim Croce, Stan Rogers, Harry Chapin... as soon as I got to like someone's music a plane would crash or a tree would run out in front of a car and suddenly there was no more of it. Well, about ten years ago I first heard the songs of Kieran Halpin on a wet night in London and thankfully the jinx was laid to rest! Since then I've had many great evenings watching him "Live and Kicking" and I have listened with interest to all his recordings. On holiday in Ireland for the Christmas before last I purchased his latest CD entitled *Crystal Ball Gazing*. Nothing unusual about that you might say. True. I then persuaded 'er indoors to blow her tax cheque on a CD player because we didn't have one at the time.

What I got was a collection of ten tracks from an artist at the peak of his musical career, a career that has seen him move steadily up tempo from the early mixture of traditional and contemporary songs recorded with Geordie fiddler Tom McConville on the Celtic Music label. Those first two albums *Port of Call* and *Streets of Everywhere* are now amongst the most precious in many of my friends record collections. I've heard Kieran's music described as angry; and though there is anger in some of his lyrics it shouldn't be confused with energy which is the hallmark of all his recorded work.

In the early days you got guitar, fiddle, a bit of bouzouki and the odd vocal harmony from Bob Fox but this album displays quite a different sound. As well as acoustic guitars you get electric (sorry Jess!), bass, keyboards, drums, sax, Hammond Organ... you name it! From the very first bar the horns are coming at you and the quality of the music arrests your attention. With such a fine gathering of studio musicians backing him,

among them Jimmy Faulkner (previously recorded with Christy Moore, Lunny etc...) and Martin Allcock from Fairport Convention there is no hint of over-instrumentation. These songs are backed with everything they need and nothing they don't need to get their message across. What you will need as a listener (apart from a CD player!) is to get used to a fairly broad Dundalk accent that presents problems even to some Irish people who try to understand it. The songwords are cleverly provided in the sleeve booklet to save you a study in linguistics. I won't go on about the words except to say that Kieran is widely regarded as probably the greatest crafter of a song working in Europe today... in a couple of lines he can paint you a picture, e.g.

*Now the sinner is awakened, the milkman on his round  
The magpie at the dustbin in this early morning town*

from "the strangeness of it all" : track 8

Personally, my favourite tracks are the title track and *Lucy* and the almost calypso *Limbo People* with the wonderful background vocals of the Murphys from *Love in a Bucket*. Those word pictures are a feature of *Real Country Boy* which has a wonderfully piss-taking chorus. The other thing I liked about this album is the vibrant bass playing from Pat Byrne, good enough to make Martin Allcock take a back seat at the keyboards.

If you are not familiar with the music of Kieran Halpin here's a good place to start...*Crystal Ball Gazing* recorded at Ringsend Studios in Dublin and mastered at Abbey Rd. Unlike those priceless early albums on the Celtic Music label this one IS available in Australia through Sandstock and can be found at the door of the folk club every Friday. The two most important words in this review are the two that follow. Buy it.



## COLONIAL DANCERS

WINTER SOLSTICE BUSH BALL

Saturday 22 June 1991

Colonial Dancers will again be running a Winter Solstice Bush Ball in the Northcote town Hall from 8 pm. to 1 am.

The programme will consist of 18 dances and medleys plus 2 additional uncalled dances. There will also be appropriate entertainment for Winter Solstice. Fancy dress, olde world, colonial or neat casual. BYO food and drink.

Tickets are \$12 from Barry Simpson (03) 484 4130  
or Garry Clarke (03) 687 5504. Book now.



# ALEXANDRA, THE CLAYTONS FESTIVAL

After reading the festival reviews in last month's issue I decided that, late as it is, somebody should write something of the "Claytons' Folk Festivals" which are held bi- (= 2) annually at Fraser Park or Crystal Creek near Alexandra. Since Jeanette was not present at the Easter "National Claytons" I thought I'd have a bash at it myself.

At each festival time a small to middling group of paupers who cannot afford to go to the real thing, congregate at one of the above locations for a few days of temperance, carrot juice and muesli, quiet chats or meditation around the camp fire and early nights which result in everybody leaping up at dawn bursting with energy and a general sense of peace, well being and bon-homie with which to enjoy daylight pastimes such as bushwalking, swimming in Lake Eildon (it's never too cold for "Balls of Steel" Murphy), canoeing etc.

People like Frank (no thanks, I couldn't touch another drop) Murphy and his serene wife Wendy plus their kids..... (I wasn't going to mention the throng of kids who regularly ~~destroy~~ attend these weekends, least of all my eldest who made a pre-emptive strike at the stash of remoulded kangaroo poos (Mooney's idea to fool Murphy), sumptuously wrapped in a rainbow of foil plus genuine Easter eggs and choc. bunnies all ready for an extremely festive Easter egg hunt the following morning. He, beginning at midnight just as I was inwardly singing that famous little ditty "when the children are asleep" etc., started to throw up in no uncertain manner. To cut a long story short, I could write a book on Tom's untimely vomiting history - I had to

declare the dunny out of bounds for some considerable time. Therefore I won't mention the kids again, little darlin's as they are and a great time as they had - except Tom was off chocolate on Easter Sunday. I digress - where the hell was I? Oh yes. Peace and bonhomie. Other visitors included the Mooneys, Brian and Pat and their daughter whose name I cannot spell but was thankfully nicknamed "Vanilla" by one of the Mooney fan club that passed through during the weekend. "Vanilla" I can cope with, and she magnanimously made sure on arrival that nobody else caught their fingers (or toes more likely) in the mousetrap.

Also featuring the quiet Hermit from Highlands, Ian Russell, who seemed to have a lot of catching up to do with the vivacious Margaret in his hand built and ingeniously engineered gypsy caravan. He gives the table a subtle kick and immediately a Heath-Robinson type mechanism converts a romantic little dinner setting into a four poster bed complete with silk drapes. Ian is a wonderful character and we Claytons folkies are privileged to have heard his extensive repertoire of songs - from oldies to those which are not suitable for children's ears although they are often so subtle the little darlin's wouldn't understand them anyway.

Heaps of other people arrived: Trevor (none for me thanks) Trotter, a versatile musician who doesn't feature strongly enough on the folk scene - everyone knows him - but he really seems to excel at these gatherings with his considerable talent on a range of instruments. Robin (self styled lunatic) and Frances (sings like a lark - farts like a

trouper) and Brooke (child - see above) Wade, who brought along these young, unbearably fit and healthy juggler friends Mark and Tara, who were an embarrassing example to us all.

Steve (wombat fetishist as long as they don't move) and Ruth (this is a wind down weekend - first time off for 35 years champagne at breakfast a must - soaked up by a stir-fry of sausages, bacon, cask of red wine - delicately flavoured with a sprinkling of herbs from the garden) McKenna.

By Friday afternoon the booze fridge was busting, the reserve Esky's were lined up and it was on. Need I say the time literally flew by - mostly horizontally - but you know all about that. Jolly tunes, songs, some serious, some hilarious, like when Mooney followed a sensitive ballad with a roaring rendition of "My name is Jack, I'm a necrophiliac....." I trust that you know the rest - if not - bad luck 'cos I'm sure it's unprintable.

Then, one evening, don't ask me which, there was this twilight performance of juggling with blazing clubs by the aforementioned Mark and Tara - extremely spectacular - an orbital display of underarm and overarm hurling of these lethal weapons to each other - highly dangerous to my tender mind - and they think we folkies are strange. Mind you, there weren't involved in the home brew comparison marathon that had preceeded the event. ref: Mooney fan club which appeared sporadically. Mark and Tara are to my mind a strange eccentric couple. They should be a few decades older I think it would do them good. For example, Tara runs up mountains before breakfast while we all consider it a real accomplishment to have got out of bed. She also plays a not too bad clarinet - and Mark made all the right sounds from an extremely unconventional digeridoo which would not have looked out of place on the wall of a shower block.

Sunday night was brass monkey weather and we finally had to go indoors during a brief downpour - instant Mayhem - but Brian M. had been very domesticated and made everybody a nice hot drink (I must get that recipe) Apparently it wasn't quite as it should have been as we'd stupidly forgotten to get in the grappa but catastrophe was averted when I produced some brandy and gin. This seemed to provide the necessary 'je ne sais quoi' to an already lethal mixture. A couple of vats of that and it didn't seem cold any more.

Robin did a crazy 'action song' which left him crosseyed, foaming at the mouth and steaming from the armpits. People rushed for the dunny. It was hilarious. He couldn't possibly have performed with such feeling before the hot drink!

What a crazy, sleepless, boozy, wonderful time. A Claytons National. No African drums or Indian syncopations but a few Celtic pulses - yes. Voices certainly featured and it was great to hear Ruth singing again. No international guests, just a crowd of locals wanting to share a few days sojourn in relative peace and friendship. I agree, its bloody strong stuff this homebrew.

On Monday fond farewells were exchanged as friends departed - perchance to partake of the fabled carrot juice and muesli, temperance and an early night at home.

Thanks to all who come to our weekends - they are always advertised and we always say the more the merrier. A diversity of talents and personalities always makes for memorable occasions and a genuine feeling that perhaps we didn't miss out on a major event.

PAM CONNELL



## RECORDS, COMPACT DISCS & CASSETTES

The most recent shipment of records and C.D.s arrived at the Folk Club early in May and the devotees of Roy Bailey, Altan, Stephen Fearing, Martyn Carthy, et al, were quick to take advantage of the latest. Business was indeed BRISK!!

As the end of the financial year is rapidly approaching and in an attempt to ease the burden of stocktaking, I have not placed a June order, (with the exception of specifically requested items). I intend to order a BIG ONE for July, so please share any information/advice you may have and acquaint me of your preferences/desires.

Members were offered a discount on stock during the month of May and this discount will be available to all M.F.C. patrons during June. Members will also be entitled to additional discount on many stock lines, particularly in the case of bulk purchases. Please ASK for details when you visit the stall on Friday nights.

Remember, by patronising such enterprises of the F.S.D.S.V., you help to generate additional income, assisting the Society in the promotion of its various activities.

Coralie

SUPPORT YOUR SOCIETY

BUY THROUGH THE CLUB!

### BATTLER'S BALLAD:

Songs & Recitations of Australian Bush Life

Alan Scott & Keith McKenry

Fanged Wombat Productions, 5 Bonney St, Ainslie, ACT 2602

Compact Disc and cassette

Reviewed by John Dengate

There are no dazzling vocal harmonies or musical pyrotechnics here; what IS here is very important, moving and (to me) beautiful. The National Library has done the nation in general and folklorists in particular, a great service in recording this selection of songs, poems and music.

Keith McKenry recites a wide range of verses including two of my favourite Henry Lawson pieces, "Scots of the Riverina" and "The Grog & Grumble Steeplechase". I loved "Jones' Selection", a poem about a greedy farmer who tortured his soil until it rebelled and buried him.

Scotty sings in the authentic traditional Australian style: his voice is full of character and resonance, pitch accurate and diction perfect. I honestly believe he is our best performer and interpreter of Australian folk songs. He accompanies himself on English concertina - mainly melody rather than chords. The songs include a number of absolute gems, some never before recorded. There is Duke Tritton's classic "Shearing in a Bar", Jack Wright's "Battler's Ballad" (a beauty), "Jacksons" (collected in 1984 by John Meredith), "Jog along till Shearing" and "Frank Gardiner". In all, 12 songs, 12 poems and 2 tunes. On some tracks, Mark Rummery, Kevin Bradley and Mary Miliano contribute tasteful, understated accompaniment on fiddle, guitar, mandolin and piano.

I loved this CD/cassette. There is dignity, humour, simple beauty and subtle poetic irony. It is a microcosm of Australia, a distillation of generations of experience. Once you've heard it, you'll want to part with your hard-earned to buy one!



## FOLK ROOTS CHART

- |    |   |                             |
|----|---|-----------------------------|
| 1  | RHYTHM OF THE SAINTS<br>Paul Simon                  | (Warner Bros WX340)         |
| 2  | EVERYBODY'S ANGEL<br>Tanita Tikaram                 | (East West WX4010)          |
| 3  | MIDNIGHT STROLL<br>Robert Cray                      | (Phonogram 846652)          |
| 4  | THE FIVE SEASONS<br>Fairport Convention             | (New Routes RUE CD 005)     |
| 5  | LIVE AT LIBERTY LUNCH<br>Joe Ely                    | (MCA DMCG 6113)             |
| 6  | ROOM TO ROAM<br>The Waterboys                       | (Ensign CHEN 16)            |
| 7  | THE BYRDS<br>The Byrds                              | (Columbia 46773)            |
| 8  | THE COMPLETE RECORDINGS<br>Robert Johnson           | (Columbia 467246)           |
| 9  | ANAM<br>Clannad                                     | (RCA PL 74762)              |
| 10 | HEARTBEATS ACCELERATING<br>Kate & Anna McGarrigle   | (Private/BMG 261 142)       |
| 11 | LILT - FOR THE CHILDREN<br>Various Artists          | (Alias ETLP 191)            |
| 12 | THE RED CROW<br>Altan                               | (Green Linnet GLCD 1109)    |
| 13 | LOVE IS A STRANGE HOTEL<br>Gregson & Collister      | (Special Delivery SPD 1035) |
| 14 | FREEDOM AND RAIN<br>June Tabor & The Oyster Band    | (Cooking Vinyl COOK 031)    |
| 15 | HELL'S DITCH<br>The Pogues                          | (Poguemahone/WEA WX366)     |
| 16 | LIFE AND LIMB<br>Martin Carthy & Dave Swarbrick     | (Special Delivery SPD 1030) |
| 17 | THE BEST OF MARY BLACK<br>Mary Black                | (Dara DARTE 134)            |
| 18 | THE HOPE CHEST<br>10,000 Maniacs                    | (Elektra EKT 79)            |
| 19 | BRAND NEW DANCE<br>Emmylou Harris                   | (Reprise 7599-26309)        |
| 20 | GRACELAND<br>Paul Simon                             | (WEA WX52)                  |
| 21 | THE HEALER<br>John Lee Hooker                       | (Silvertone ORE LP 508)     |
| 22 | MAART<br>Martin Allcock                             | (Woodworm WRCD 012)         |
| 23 | THE BOYS FROM THE BLUE HILL<br>Vinnie Kilduff       | (Mulligan LUN CD 050)       |
| 24 | TROUBLE NO MORE<br>Darden Smith                     | (CBS 467123)                |
| 25 | ASPECTS<br>June Tabor                               | (Conifer CDRR 501)          |
| 26 | THE RELIEF OF DERRY SYMPHONY<br>Sean Davey          | (Tara CD 3024)              |
| 27 | FISHERMAN'S BLUES<br>The Waterboys                  | (Ensign CHEN 5)             |
| 28 | BROTHER'S KEEPER<br>The Neville Brothers            | (A&M 395-312)               |
| 29 | THE BLUES GUITAR BOX<br>Various Artists             | (Sequel TBB 47555)          |
| 30 | BRIEFLY ON THE STREET<br>Jez Lowe & The Bad Pennies | (Fellside FE079)            |

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Many titles available from Sandstock Records - Ask Coralie at the record desk at the Melbourne Folk Club on a Friday night,



# MELBOURNE FOLK CLUB

## JUNE

Friday night 8:30pm - 11:00pm \* Session 1101 → STUMPS

7th The Colonials  
 Andrew WISHART "Hicks From The Sticks" 14th

Adrian & Glenda VERRINDER  
 & Captain LOGAN (from Wedderburn)

21st ACCORD

Derek & Barb GUILLE (from Horsham)

Joe PAOLACCI, John HARTIGAN, Andrew  
 & Simon LeBLANC, Simon MELLA, Craig WOODWARD

David HOSKING

28th Bruce WATSON  
 Dennis & Lynne TRACEY

Peter ANDERSON

JULY 1st

Rick E Vengeance  
 Mike & Michelle Jackson

Folk Song & Dance Society

East Brunswick Club Hotel  
 280 Lygon Street  
 Brunswick East  
 380 5911



of Victoria

Admission:  
 \$6 non members  
 \$5 concession  
 \$4 members

Enquiries: 3875256

Trams: 1 or 15

# SHALOM-SALAAM-ASITÏ

A Concert of Music, Dance and Poetry for Peace



LA ROMANESCA  
 Sephardic & Arabic music  
 of medieval Spain

GOLDEN STRINGS  
 Instrumental & vocal  
 music of Egypt &  
 Lebanon

SHALOM AUSTRALIA  
 The Jewish Folkloric  
 Dance Company

MIRI MOR and  
 THE HALLELUJAH BAND  
 Moroccan singer of  
 music from many  
 cultures

NIGHTS OF LEBANON  
 Traditional  
 Middle Eastern  
 music with  
 kanoun, oud and nay

KURDISH ASSOCIATION  
 FOLK DANCE GROUP  
 Accompanied by zurna  
 and davul

Stories and poems by  
 ROSA SAFRANSKY  
 &  
 CHADIA GEDEON  
 Lebanese poet

Illustration: Mirka Mora

MELBA HALL, University of Melbourne, Royal Parade, Parkville  
 (opposite tram stop 17, wheelchair accessible)

Sunday June 16th 2:00 pm

TICKETS \$16/ \$12 conc./ \$8 children

BOOKINGS  
 RECOMMENDED:  
 417 3550

(Sponsored by The Boite; supported by Multicultural Arts Victoria and the Community Arts Network)





# MELBOURNE FOLK CLUB

## Kids Concert WITH Mike & Michelle JACKSON

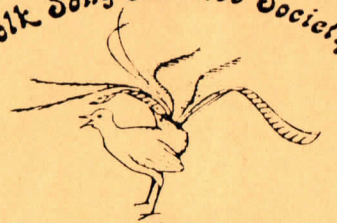
SUNDAY JULY 7th

1pm

East Brunswick Club Hotel  
280 Lygon Street  
Brunswick East

Tram : 1 or 15

Tolk Song & Dance Society



of  
Victoria

Admission \$5.00  
Kids under 3 free

Enquiries & Bookings  
387 5256  
387 3230

NO SMOKING DURING CONCERT PLEASE

## SALAAM-SHALOM-AŞITÎ

Salaam-Shalom-Aşitî is a celebration of Arabic, Jewish and Kurdish culture and a search for peace through music, dance and poetry. The concert will express the richness and beauty of different traditions with roots in the same region.

**LA ROMANESCA** perform the lovely Sephardic and Arabic music of 15th century Spain, with medieval lute, guitarra morisca, and psaltery. **GOLDEN STRINGS** play instrumental and vocal music of Egypt and Lebanon, with tabla and tambourine adding rhythmic excitement. Moroccan singer **MIRI MOR** and **THE HALLELUJAH BAND** will offer a selection of favorite songs in Hebrew, Arabic and Ladino. **NIGHTS OF LEBANON** incorporate the oud, kanoun (like a harp and a sitar) and nay (bamboo flute) into their special renditions of traditional Middle Eastern music.

The **KURDISH ASSOCIATION DANCERS** are inspired by the wailing melodies and driving rhythms of the zurna (predecessor of the clarinet) and davul (Kurdish drum). **SHALOM AUSTRALIA** illustrate dances from the broad spectrum of Jewish culture, including Yemenite, Hassidic and modern Israeli (with **DANNY SCHWARZ** entertaining on clarinet).

Lebanese playwright/poet **CHADIA GEDEON** and Jewish story writer **ROSA SAFRANSKY** will add humour and humanism with readings especially chosen for the day.

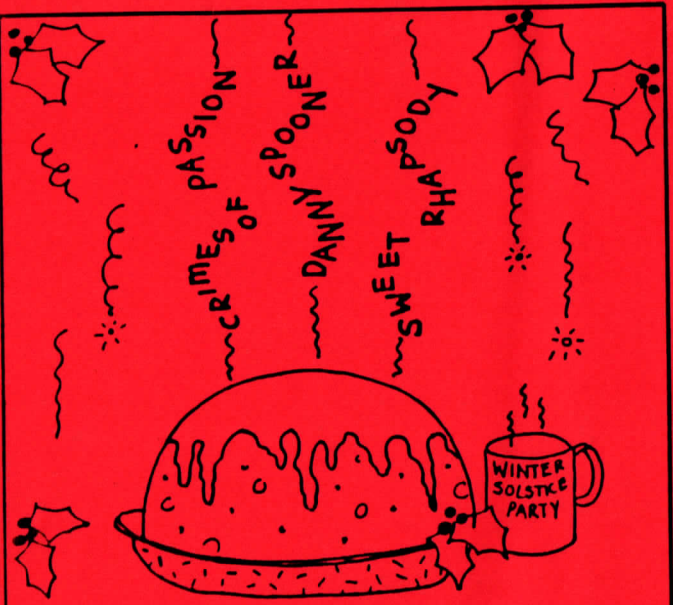
Following the concert, you're invited to stay for tea, coffee, and a sample of traditional treats.

**Come share in this joyous occasion!**



boite [Fr] bwah.t.





▷ At the Boite World Music Café  
Mark Street Hall Nth. Fitzroy  
Saturday June 22<sup>nd</sup> 8.15pm  
Accoustic Music and Mulled wine  
by the open fire.  
Entry \$10 and \$7  
Enquiries 4173550

# The Boite

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Annual Singers' Festival

